

MAT-8503US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: 10/775,906
Applicants: Takehiko Konja, et al.
Filed: February 10, 2004
Title: OPENING AND CLOSING DEVICE AND
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT USING THE SAME
TC/A.U.: 2614
Examiner: Phylesha Larvinia Dabney
Confirmation No.: 1203
Docket No.: MAT-8503US

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.132

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We, Takehiko Konja, Yasuchika Kudo, Katsuichi Minami and Koji Sakai hereby declare that:

- 1) We are co-inventors of the invention which is the subject of the present application.
- 2) We are also co-inventors of the invention which is the subject of U.S. Patent no. 6,886,221 to Minami et al. (the '221 patent).
- 3) The present application and the '221 patent are commonly assigned.
- 4) During the conception and development of both the subject matter of the '221 patent and the present invention, we were employees of Matsushita Electrical Industrial Co., Ltd.
- 5) We have reviewed the claims of the present application, the Office Action of September 25, 2007 and the '221 patent.

6) As co-inventors of both the present application and the '221 patent, any invention disclosed but not claimed in the '221 patent was derived by us therefrom and is thus not an "invention by another" under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e).

7) By our signatures below, we hereby declare that all statements made herein of my (our) own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. Further, we hereby declare that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements, and the like so made, are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001, Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing on the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Dec. 13, 2007

Takehiko Konja
Takehiko Konja

Date: Dec. 13, 2007

Yasuchika Kudo
Yasuchika Kudo

Date: Dec. 13, 2007

Katsuichi Minami
Katsuichi Minami

Date: Dec. 13, 2007

Koji Sakai
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